

Serial Number: 10/500,850

Remarks/Arguments

This application has been carefully considered in light of the Final Office Action mailed October 2, 2006. As a result, claims 1-4 have been amended and claim 8 canceled without prejudice. Responsive to the Office Action, the following is submitted.

Claim Objection

Claim 1 has been objected to as being indefinite. In this respect, the claim have been amended to overcome the objection. Therefore, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.A. § 102(b)

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3 as being directly anticipated by US Patent 4319162 to Hoeh. Claims 1, 5, 7, and 8 have been rejected as being anticipated by US Patent to Kawamura, 4283217. Claims 1 and 6 have further been rejected as being anticipated under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by US Patent 6630779 to Tokes et al. Claim 4 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious in view of US Patent 6531824 to Tan. Each of the references has been considered but is not believed to teach the

Serial Number: 10/500,850

invention of the present application as set forth in the amended claims and as shown in Figs. 3(a) and 3(b).

More particularly, the tubular lamp structure includes the outer portion which substantially surrounds a central point on opposite side of which pass the two inner portions which extend from one side of the outer portion so as to have ends proximate to a second side of the outer portion. This structure permits a maximization of the lighting capacity of the lamp structure. Further, in the embodiments shown in Figs. 3(a) and 3(b) of the present invention, an adapter is mounted at the center point that includes pins for permitting electrical connection of the lamp at the center point. Such structure is not disclosed in the prior art that has been cited.

In addition, as set forth in the dependent claims, in one embodiment, the adapter is configured to be electrically connected to pins associated with a leg member that mounts at the ends of the two inner tubular members to the second side of the outer portion while in a second embodiment, the adapter and the leg member are integrally formed.

In Hoeh, the electrical terminals 26 and 27 require an end mounting of the tubular lamp structure and there is no central lamp mounting adapter. In a somewhat similar manner, the terminals of Kawamura are provided at the free ends of the

Serial Number: 10/500,850

tubular lamp structure and not centrally of the lamp and spaced from the free ends of inner portions of the lamp as is the case with the present invention.

In Tokes et al, the lamp mounting member 22 is provided offset from the central point of the lamp such that the terminals 36 are also offset from the central part. Additionally, the ends of the inner tubular portions of the lamp do not extend to proximate a second side of an outer portion of the lamp as is the case with the lamp structure of the present invention. In view of the foregoing, not only is there no adapter for central point mounting, but the extent of the inner tubular portions is less than that of the present invention.

The reference to Yan has also been considered but is not believed to teach the inventive characteristics of the present invention as set forth above. Yan, like previous references to Lau and Chapman et al show adapters that are provided centrally of the outer lamp portion, however, the ends of the inner tubular portions terminate at the central mounting adapter and do not extend to proximate the second side of the outer tubular portion, as is the case with the present invention. With the structure of the present invention, the inner tubular portions extend within and across the outer tubular member to maximize light output and yet provide a central mounting by mounting the central adapter to

Serial Number: 10/500,850

portions of the inner tubular portions spaced inwardly of the ends thereof such that an adapter arm is required to extend between the adapter body and the leg member that is attached to the ends of the inner tubular portions. No such similar structure is taught in the prior art.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of the amended claims 1-7 is respectfully solicited. It is also submitted that the current amendment, after Final, should be entered as it does not raise new issues. The central adapter and the extended length of the inner tubular portions of the lamp were within the claims as originally filed and as previously amended. It is believed the present amendment also places the claims in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this response and the amendment to the claims, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would contact the undersigned attorney of record at the telephone number shown below.

Serial Number: 10/500,850

Respectfully Submitted,


DOWELL & DOWELL, P.C.

By _____

Ralph A. Dowell, Reg. No. 26,868

Date: December 11, 2006

DOWELL & DOWELL, P.C.

Suite 406, 2111 Eisenhower Ave.

Alexandria, VA 22314

Telephone - 703 415-2555

Facsimile - 703 415-2559

E-mail - dowell@dowellpc.com